

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 AF-10 IO-14 EUR-25 H-03 SAB-01

PCH-02 SS-20 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 USIA-15 SPC-03 SAM-01 /134 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:JEBRIGGS

APPROVED BY NEA/P:JEBRIGGS

S/PRS - MR. KING (INFO)

AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

IO/P - MR. BLACHLY

EUR/P - MR. SAVAGE

NEA/EGY - MR. STERNER

H - MISS FOLGER (INFO)

----- 096473

R 1926Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

USINT DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY SANAA BY POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING IS PARTIAL
EXCERPT FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING
FEBRUARY 19, 1974:

QUOTE: SPOKESMAN: THE SECRETARY SAID THAT HE DOES EXPECT
TO LEAVE, UNDER PRESENT PLANNING, MONDAY OF NEXT WEEK,
AND IN ADDITION TO GOING, OBVIOUSLY, TO THE TWO CAPITALS
INVOLVED IN THAT PARTICULAR DISENGAGEMENT AREA, IT IS A
GOOD CHANCE THAT HE WILL VISIT OTHER CAPITALS IN THE AREA
AS WELL. SAQQAF IS LEAVING THIS AFTERNOON ON THE TWA
FLIGHT OUT TO PARIS; FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMI WILL STAY HERE
SOME TIME LONGER. THE SECRETARY WILL BE SEEING HIM AGAIN
BEFORE LEAVING TOMORROW FOR MEXICO. HE HAS, OF COURSE,
BEEN IN TOUCH THROUGHOUT, IN THIS LATTER PERIOD ALSO, WITH
THE SOVIETS, WITH AMBASSADOR DINITZ, WITH DR. KABANI,
THE HEAD OF THE SYRIAN INTERESTS SECTION, AND THAT IS ABOUT
IT.

Q. HOW LONG DO YOU EXPECT THE MID EAST TRIP TO LAST?

A. SHEER ESTIMATE ONLY, ABOUT A WEEK, MORE OR LESS ALWAYS

SEEMS TO BE ABOUT IT. I SHOULD CAUTION YOU THAT IN THIS
PARTICULAR TRIP, I HAVE SEEN A GREAT DEAL OF EXPECTATION
THAT WE ARE GOING INTO A FULL SCALE SHUTTLE BACK AND
FORTH BETWEEN THE TWO CAPITALS OVER THERE. AND I THINK
YOU SHOULD LOOK AT THIS MORE IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR
EXPERIENCE IN WORKING WITH THE EGYPTIAN FRONTIER, AND THE
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OBJECTIVE PRIMARILY HERE WOULD BE TO GET THE TALKS STARTED.
AND I THINK THIS NEXT VISIT WOULD RATHER COMPARE TO THE
NOVEMBER TRIP, WHICH WE TOOK LAST YEAR, TO GET THE
EGYPTIAN TALKS GOING.

Q. HAS THE SECRETARY RECEIVED ANY ASSURANCES ON THE
LIFTING OF THE OIL EMBARGO?

A. YOU ALL KNOW OUR POSITION ON THE OIL EMBARGO, AND I

THINK YOU HAVE TO LEAVE EVERYTHING FURTHER TO BE SAID BY
THE ARABS THEMSELVES.

Q. WHAT CAUSED THE SECRETARY TO CHANGE HIS MIND? HE
HAD SAID EARLIER THAT HE REALLY WOULD NOT GO BACK TO THE
MIDDLE EAST UNTIL THERE WAS A FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH
DISCUSSIONS COULD BE HELD. NOW, CLEARLY THERE IS NO
FRAMEWORK YET, OR THERE DOESN'T APPEAR TO BE. WHY IS HE
GOING?

A. I CAN'T REFINE FOR YOU THE SECRETARY'S THINKING AS TO
EXACTLY WHAT CONSTITUTES A FRAMEWORK, OR WHAT IS THE
ADVANTAGEOUS OR DISADVANTAGEOUS MOMENT TO DO SOMETHING,
BUT HE OBVIOUSLY CONSIDERS THIS IS WORTH IT IN THE CONTEXT
OF NOW.

Q. IS IT A NEW DECISION TO GO THAT WAS TAKEN TODAY?

A. YES.

Q. MR. SAQQAF SAID THAT THE AUTHORITIES HERE IN THE
UNITED STATES WILL MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT THE GOOD
NEWS. DO YOU EXPECT SECRETARY KISSINGER TO MAKE SUCH AN
ANNOUNCEMENT, OR DO YOU THINK IT WILL COME OUT IN THE
WHITE HOUSE, OR WILL YOU MAKE THE ANNOUNCEMENT?

A. I'M NOT AWARE OF AN IMPENDING ANNOUNCEMENT FROM
ANY SOURCE AT THIS STAGE BEYOND THE FACT THAT THE
SECRETARY AND THE PRESIDENT THOUGHT THE CIRCUMSTANCES
WARRANTED SENDING MR. KISSINGER BACK NEXT MONDAY. END
QUOTE.

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KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: 032967 POUCHED SANAA.

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NNN

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